

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish****Federal Tax ID: 81-3444753****Commission****Project Title:****Project Type: Planning and Research**

# Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission - Salmon Stock Assessment using Environmental DNA

**State Funding Requested: \$88,000****House District: 38 / S**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Implement newer low cost approaches to salmon stock assessment.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$88,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2023 State Funding Request:	(\$88,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Monitoring returning adult salmon using conventional weirs and counting towers is expensive, plus these assessment methods are difficult to operate during periods of high flow. It is important to begin complimenting these conventional methods with newer low-cost approaches to salmon stock assessment. Environmental DNA (eDNA) samples from river water are being collected at multiple sites in the Yukon River and SE Alaska to estimate salmon abundance by measuring the species-specific DNA concentrations in daily water samples from these three tributaries.

This project will refine, implement and build capacity to support cost-effective monitoring of salmon populations at three sites in the Kuskokwim drainage based on the amount of DNA shed by salmon into the water. The annual cost of equipment, supplies, DNA analysis and sampling by local community-based technicians at three sites. The estimate cost

**Project Timeline:**

As soon as grant agreement is signed.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name:	Kevin Whitworth
Title:	Interim Executive Director
Address:	PO Box 190 Bethel, Alaska 99559
Phone Number:	(907)545-6206
Email:	kevinwhitworth@kritfc.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No